

Application Number: 10/780,976
Customer Number 25280

Docket Number 6683

REMARKS

The Pending Claims

Claims 9, 11, 16, and 21 have been amended, thus claims 9-13, 15-17, and 21 are subject to continued examination. Justification for the amendments to claims 9, 11, 16, and 21 may be found, for example, on page 3, lines 6-16.

Summary of the Office Action

The Office Action dated May 10, 2007, included the following rejections and objections:

1. Claims 9-13, 16, 17, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cain et al. (US Application 3,634,126) in view of Wang et al. (US Application 2005/0186873).

In response to these rejections and in view of the above amendments, Applicants provide the following Remarks:

Discussion of the Rejections

Claims 9-13, 16, 17, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cain et al. in view of Wang et al. The Office Action states that Cain et al. discloses a method to deposit two compositions on a fabric whereon each surface contains different compositions and in combination with the teachings of Wang et al. discloses a method to create the article as claimed by the Applicants. Applications respectfully disagree with this conclusion.

Firstly, Applicants respectively believe that Wang et al. is not available as prior art as the filing date of February 24, 2004 is after the filing date of this application (February 18, 2004).

In describing the method of manufacture, Cain et al. states that if two different finishes are used for different sides of the textile, they must not interact with each other.

"Of course, when applying two different compositions, the composition or liquid carrier on one fabric must not react in any way with the composition or liquid carrier on the second fabric when the two fabrics are brought into contact" Col 3, lines 57-62 (emphasis added)

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The two solutions of the invention, a cationic chemical treatment and an anionic chemical treatment, are incompatible, meaning that they do react with each other.

"For purposes of this application, the term "incompatible" chemical treatments describes treatments that turn cloudy and/or precipitate within one minute when a 10% solution of each chemical treatment is mixed together." Page 3 lines 10-13.

MPEP 2143.02 states that the prior art can be modified or combined to reject claims as *prima facie* obvious as long as there is a reasonable expectation of success. Applicants respectfully believe that if the cationic and anionic chemical compositions of the invention were used in the method of Cain et al., there would not be a reasonable chance of success in forming a textile fabric having a cationic chemical treatment on a first surface and an anionic chemical treatment on a second surface, where the cationic chemical treatment and the anionic chemical treatment are incompatible, and each of said chemical treatments are substantially isolated on the surfaces to which they are applied.

Conclusion

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections and to pass the subject application to allowance. In the event that the Examiner believes that the claims would be allowable with minor changes, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss an Examiner's Amendment.

Fee Authorization: In the event that there are additional fees associated with the submission of these papers, Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to withdraw those fees from our Deposit Account No. 04-0500.

Extension of Time: In the event that additional time is required to have the papers submitted herewith for the above referenced application to be considered timely, Applicant hereby petitions for any additional time required to make these papers timely and authorization is hereby granted to withdraw any

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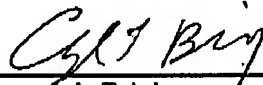
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additional fees necessary for this additional time from our Deposit Account No.
04-0500.

August 28, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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